

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY CONDITION
OF THE
Crowle Urban District

For the Year 1914,

BY
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Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition of the Crowle Urban District for the Year 1914.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report of the Sanitary Condition of your District for the year ending December 31st, 1914, together with the Tables of Infectious Diseases, Sickness, and Mortality, as required by the Local Government Board.

Before doing so, however, I should like to express the great loss which Crowle, in general, and the Council in particular, have sustained in the death of Dr. A. A. Hamilton, who for over 25 years was your much-respected Medical Officer of Health.

I take this opportunity also of thanking you for appointing me in his stead.

Physical Features and General Character of the District.

The Urban District is a low level tract

The area of the census at the last time of taking it was 6,926 acres of land with 52 acres of inland water.

Social Conditions.

The inhabitants are chiefly engaged in agriculture and retail trade.

There are two breweries, a rope manufactory, a brick works, and peat works employing local labour.

Population.

I estimate the population of the District at 2,882. That is an increase of 9 over 1913.

Vital Statistics.

There were 75 births (34 male and 41 female) registered in the District during the year, this being an increase of 6 over last year, and is equal to a birth rate of 26·12 per 1000 of the population. There were 5 of these illegitimate. This is worse than last year when there were 4. The birth rate for England and Wales for 1913 was

Deaths.

The total number registered in the District during 1914 was 27, as compared with 35 in 1913, i.e., 8 less. This is equal to a mortality rate of 9·37 per 1000 of the population.

There were 4 deaths not registered in the District. This gives a corrected mortality of 10·75 per 1000, as compared with 13·75 for 1913. The death rate for England and Wales for 1913 was This is also good. In 1911 the corrected death rate was 18·22.

This year is the lowest death rate I can find—a record for the district.

No death occurred which was not registered.

The natural increase of the population during the year, i.e., excess of births over deaths, was 44.

Inquest.

There was one inquest during the year. Death was accidental, caused by falling from the scaffolding whilst painting the Council Schools.

Infantile Mortality.

NOT one single death under one year of age took place in the District during 1914. I should say that for a place the size of Crowle this is not only a record but unique, and to the Nurse visiting young mothers and advising them as to the feeding and clothing of babies must be given at least a very great deal of the credit.

Zymotic Mortality.

There was one death, aged 7 years, from croup.

There have been no deaths from Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Enteric Fever, Erysipelas, or Epidemic Diarrhoea.

Tuberculosis.

A boy, aged 2 years, died from Tuberculosis of the bone of the leg.

There has been no deaths from Tuberculosis of the lungs in Crowle, but one died away. One case has had Sanatorium treatment.

Infectious Diseases.

The following 18 infectious cases have been reported during the year:—

| | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 10. |
| Enteric Fever | ... | ... | ... | 1. |
| Erysipelas | ... | ... | ... | 1. |
| Puerperal Fever | ... | ... | ... | 1. |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 1. |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | 4. |

There has been no cases of Diphtheria reported during the year. I recommend that in all cases of suspicious throats the Diphtheria Serum be given at once, and not wait to see whether it develops Diphtheria or not. Precaution is better than delay.

Of the 10 cases of Scarlet Fever 4 of them occurred in one house, 2 in one house, and 4 in separate houses. There were no deaths.

The houses are disinfected by burning Formalin.

Of the 4 cases of "other" Tuberculosis. 1, aged 8 years, was in the glands; 1, aged 13, in the leg; 1, aged 1, in the ankle; and 1, aged 35, in the knee.

Corrected Deaths.

The total table of the corrected deaths in Crowle, for 1914, is as follows:—

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|---------------|
| Under 1 year | ... | ... | 0 |
| Between 1 and 2 years | ... | ... | 3 or 9'68 % |
| " 2 " 5 | ... | ... | 1 or 3'22 % |
| " 5 " 15 | ... | ... | 2 or 6'45 % |
| " 15 " 25 | ... | ... | 0 |
| " 25 " 45 | ... | ... | 6 or 19'35 % |
| " 45 " 65 | ... | ... | 3 or 9'68 % |
| Over 65 | ... | ... | 16 or 51'61 % |

Two people died from Cancer, as compared with 4 last year. They were both over 65 years of age.

One person, under 2 years of age, died from Meningitis.

Two people died from Heart Disease, as compared with 8 last year; 2 from Bronchitis, as compared with 1 last year; 6 from Pneumonia, as compared with 4 last year; 2 from Cirrhosis of liver; 1 from accident; 4 from Senility; and 9 from other diseases.

Schools.

There are three schools in the District, and these have been periodically visited during the year. In all of the schools the heating, lighting, and ventilation arrangements were found satisfactory.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders of 1885 and 1889.

There are 25 on the Register. These have been inspected once every two months. There are 61 milch cows registered in the District. There is no arrangement for Veterinary inspection of cows.

In all, 76 inspections were made during the year, and the general condition of the cowsheds and premises was good.

Slaughter Houses.

There are 7 on the Register. Forty-two inspections have been made. There have been no contraventions of bye-laws, and there were not any defects to be remedied, all being in a clean condition. No cause of illness suspected to be due to food poisoning came to my knowledge. No seizure of unsound meat was made during the year, and not any samples were taken for examination under the Food and Drugs Act.

Bake Houses.

There are 5 in the District—not any underground. Thirty inspections have been made, and not any contraventions of the Factory Acts were found.

Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, Sect. 132.

There are 20 Registered Workshops, which were inspected periodically during the year, and found in a satisfactory condition.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are 2 registered under the bye-laws. Eighteen inspections have been made. There were no contraventions of these laws.

Offensive Trades.

There are not any in the District.

Scavenging

Is carried on by the Council, under the supervision of the Inspector of Nuisances. The privy and ashpit manure is carted away regularly and put on the land, quite away from any habitation. About 58 sanitary pans are emptied and removed weekly.

Tip.

During the year the Council have bought a Tip for the disposal of rubbish other than excrement, which is now in use and should prove of great value.

Closet Accommodation.

There are 4 houses with privy vaults. Fifty-eight houses have pail closets in the District. Six have pail closets substituted for privy vaults. Five houses have water closets. All are in a good clean state.

Water Supply.

The houses are supplied by private wells. The water is hard. I advise that large rain water tanks should be supplied to new houses.

Housing.

Three new houses have been built during the year. but there is still a scarcity of houses. House inspection has been carried on in an efficient manner, and the general character is good.

Adoptive Acts, etc.

The following Adoptive Acts are in force in the District :—
Notification of Births Act
District Nurse appointed to act as Health Visitor.

Bye-Laws.

The following are in force in the District :—
Regulation of Common Lodging Houses, under Sect. 80.
For New Streets and Buildings under Sect. 157.
For Regulation of Slaughter Houses under Sect. 160.
Regulations under Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order, 1885, Art. 13.
Canal Boats are Registered in pursuance of the Canal Boats Act.

It must be remembered that I have held my office for two months, and Mr. Chapman his office for one month only, and as both the late Medical Officer of Health and the late Sanitary Inspector were ill for a long time, this will account for fewer visits being given in the Sanitary department than last year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. H. M. ALEXANDER,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

